

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN
Second Empire

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
roof ASPHALT
walls WOOD

other WOOD

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance ca. 1885

Significant Dates ca. 1885

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
Collison House
New Castle County, Delaware
Historic and Architectural Resources of Newport, Delaware

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|------|---------|----------|
| 1 | <u>18</u> | <u>447900</u> | <u>4396040</u> | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |

_____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian

organization _____ date April 30, 1992

street & number 109 Brandon Road telephone (410) 296-7538

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Collison House
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

=====

Description:

The Collison House is a 2½-story mansard-roofed dwelling located on the southwest corner of North Walnut and Justis streets, facing east. The house occupies an unusually large lot for its neighborhood, and is set back from the sidewalk, behind a hedge; a lawn studded with trees and ornamental plantings extends to the west and south of the house.

The building is essentially square both in plan and massing. It stands three bays wide by three bays deep, two stories high below a steep mansard roof with gabled dormers. It is of frame construction, sheathed in wooden German siding with a 5¼" exposure and a 4" drop. The siding terminates at narrow corner boards, and a beveled skirt board marks the base. The building rests on a parged brick foundation.

The principal (east) facade is symmetrical, with a transomed central entrance flanked on either side by narrow two-over-two windows. A small pedimented portico shelters the entrance, supported on chamfered posts with Eastlake-style braces and scrolled brackets. This portico was altered from a former porch which spanned the facade; both architectural and photographic evidence survive to document the original configuration of the porch. Windows here, as throughout the exterior, are framed with plain board trim; non-functional louvered shutters have been attached beside the ground-floor openings. On the second story, three two-over-two windows are ranged across the facade, below a bracketed cornice with molded fascia and crown molding. The mansard is sheathed in asphalt shingles, and features gabled dormers with two-over-two sash and elaborate Eastlake-derived detailing, including overhanging eaves, applied stickwork and jigsaw decoration.

The north elevation, facing Justis Street, is fenestrated similarly. The outer bays hold two-over-two windows on the first and second story levels, and gabled dormers in the mansard. The central bay is irregular; on the ground floor, it holds a two-over-two window shifted to the west (right) of center, with a secondary entrance to its right. This doorway features a transom and a small hood supported on Eastlake-style braces. On the second story, the central bay is blank, with a small pediment interrupting the cornice and a pair of engaged posts presumably indicating the location of a former balcony or sleeping porch. A brick interior chimney rises above the mansard between the east and central bays.

The south elevation is composed of two parts, with a two story, three-sided projecting bay with narrow one-over-one windows defining the eastern section, and paired two-over-two sash centered in the western section on both levels. The

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Section 7 Page 2

Collison House
name of property
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=====

mansard is lighted by two broad gabled dormers holding paired one-over-one sash; decorative detailing of the dormers is consistent with those elsewhere.

The west (rear) elevation is three irregular bays wide. A one-story hip-roofed porch across the center and south bays has been enclosed, but retains its original bracket trim. An exterior flue has been constructed against the wall immediately to the south (right) of the north bay. Remaining fenestration is consistent in type and detailing with that elsewhere in the house.

The interior was not available for investigation. According to information supplied by the realtor who listed the property for sale at the time this nomination was prepared, it features a center-passage plan with a back stair, hardwood floors, and a (closed) fireplace in the parlor.

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Section 8 Page 1

Collison House
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name of multiple property listing

Statement of Significance:

The Collison House is significant for its architecture, as the best-preserved example of Victorian period residential architecture in Newport. It combines Second Empire form and massing with decorative detailing derived from the Eastlake style, in an eclectic amalgamation typical of the period. It retains an exceptionally high degree of integrity, with the vast majority of its character-defining features preserved intact, including the exterior German siding, projecting bay, bracketed and molded cornice, and mansard roof with Eastlake-derived decorative detailing at the dormers. The only significant change to the exterior is the alteration of an original broad porch across the east facade to a one-bay pedimented portico; however, architectural evidence (in the form of "ghosting" on the siding) and photographs in a local collection clearly document the original configuration of the porch, and would permit accurate restoration of this element at some future time.

Architectural and cartographic evidence suggest a construction date in the mid-1880s. The 1868 Beers map of Newport shows North Walnut Street with dotted lines, indicating that the street was planned at that time but had not yet been opened. By 1881, the Hopkins map shows North Walnut and Justis streets in place, but the parcel at the southwest corner is indicated as vacant. The house appears on the 1893 Baist map; this map also indicates that the building was among the larger houses in Newport at the time of its construction.

The Collison House is named for the family which occupied the property continuously since 1918.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 1

Collison House
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

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Major Bibliographical References:

- Baist, G. William. Atlas of New Castle County, Delaware. Philadelphia: G. William Baist, 1893.
- Beers, D. G. Atlas of the State of Delaware. Philadelphia: Pomeroy and Beers, 1868.
- Hopkins, G. M. Map of New Castle County, Delaware. Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins & Co., 1881.
- Johnson, Ella Weldin. Story of Newport: a Square Little Town in the State of Delaware. Wilmington, DE: Paragon Press, 1963.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 1

Collison House
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
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Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

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Geographical Data:

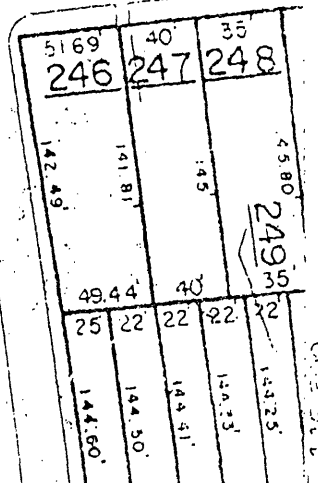
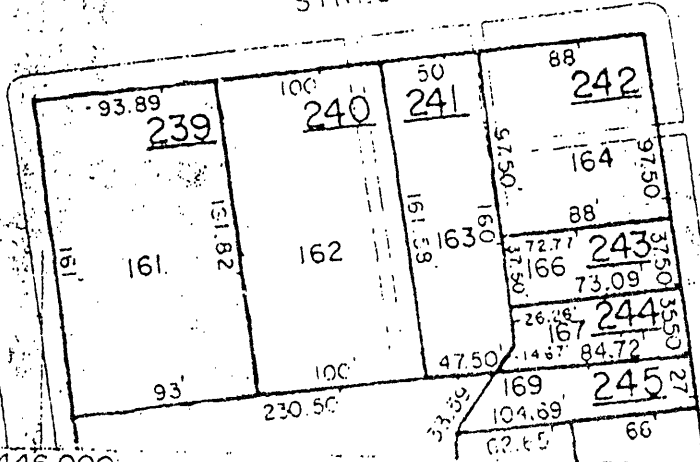
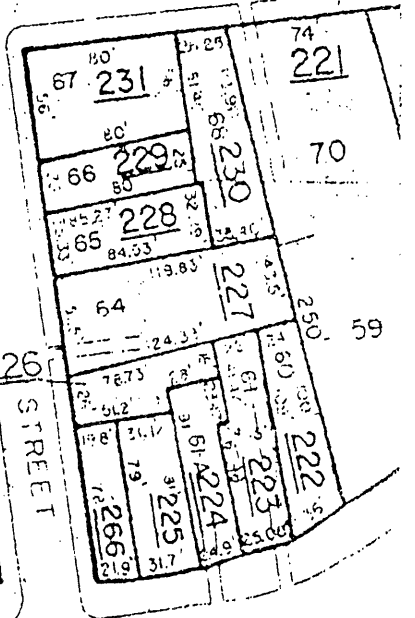
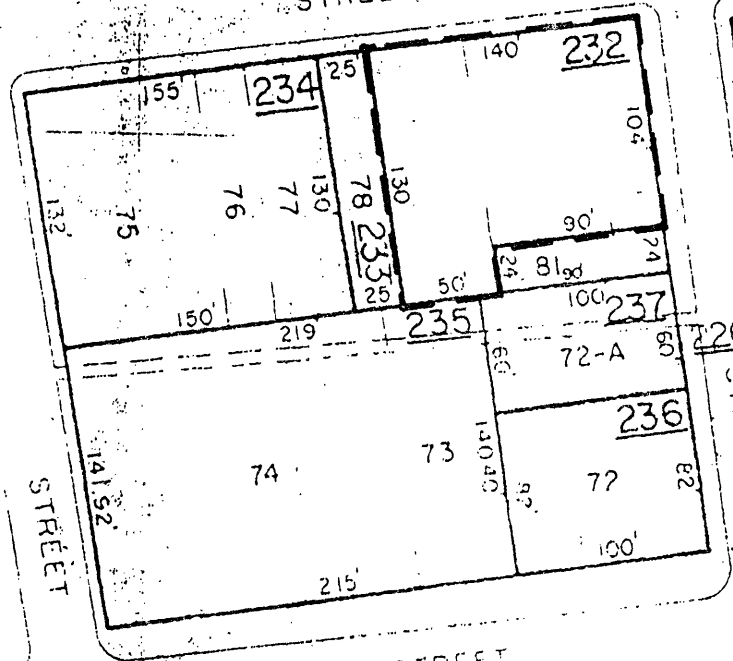
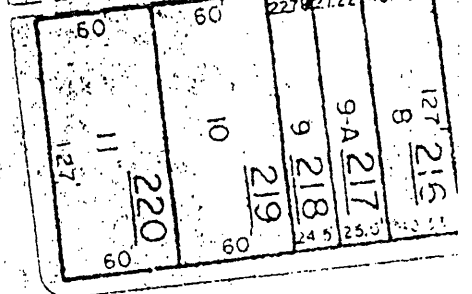
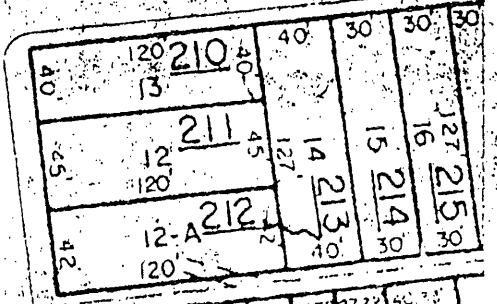
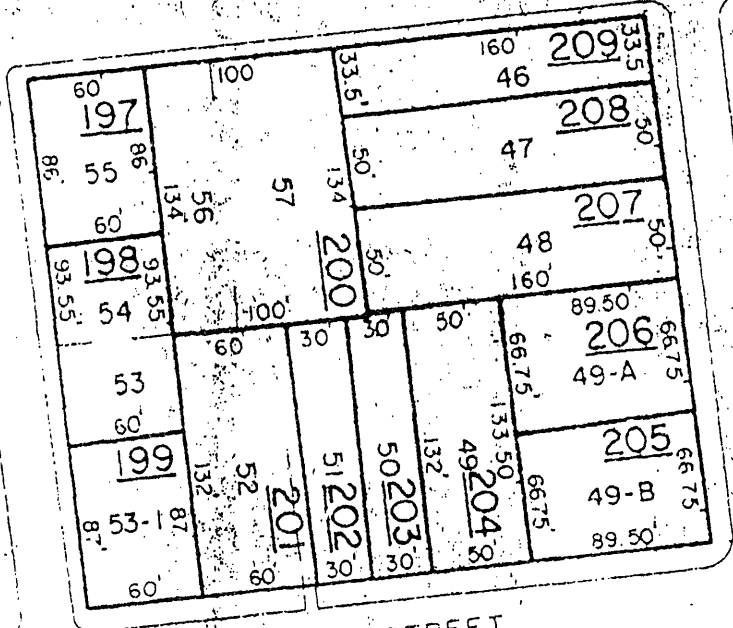
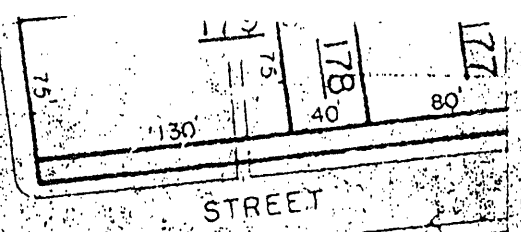
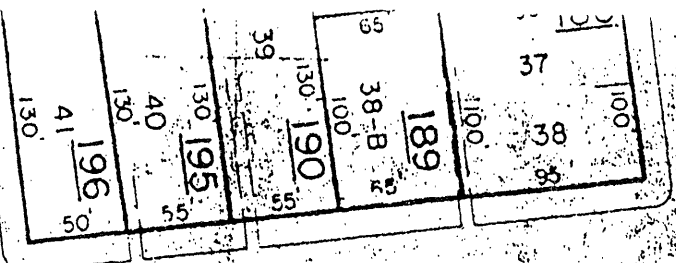
Verbal boundary description: The nominated property includes all of that parcel designated 20-001.00-232 on the Property Map of New Castle County, Delaware, and further indicated by the broken line on the section of the property map which accompanies this nomination.

Boundary justification: The boundaries described above were selected to encompass the single town lot which comprises the property historically associated with the resource.

STIAN

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N-11063 Collision House
 21 N. Walnut St.
 Historic & Architectural Resources of
 Newport, Delaware
 Source: New Castle County Tax Map
 Scale: 1"=100'



E 446 000

N 624 000